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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/079,447	02/20/2002	Thaddeus John Gabara	290-051us	9168

7590 11/04/2004

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EXAMINER

LEE, GRANVILL D

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2825

DATE MAILED: 11/04/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/079,447

Applicant(s)

GABARA ET AL.

Examiner

Granvill D Lee, Jr

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 02 August 2004.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-26 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,5,9-11,13,18-20,22 and 23 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 2-4,6-8,12,14-17,21 and 24-26 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- 1) ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - 2) ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - 3) ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless -

(a) the invention was known or used by others in this country, or patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country, before the invention thereof by the applicant for a patent.

Claims 1 and 5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) as being anticipated by Heijningen (Pub.).

In view of these claims, Heijningen discloses a method of evaluating the performance of a hybrid analog-digital integrated circuit (Abstr.) having an analog unit, a digital unit, and a substrate (Pg.1005 1st para.) on which the units are located, comprising: identifying a broadband (Sect. IV (a) 2nd para.) power source (Sect. 111 2nd para.) that represents noise characteristics of the digital unit (Sect. 111 2nd para.); simulating performance of an integrated circuit using a lumped circuit (Sect. 111 1st) in which the source couples to a lumped element representing the substrate (Sect. 111 2nd) and the substrate couples to a lumped element representing the analog unit (Sect. IV (a) 2nd para.).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for

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all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 9-11, 13, 18-20, 22 and 23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Feldmann et al.(US Pat. 6, 135,649) in view of Chang et al. (US Pat. 6,075,770).

In view of claims 9- 10, 18-19 and 23, Feldmann et al. teaches a digital circuit from an integrated circuit, which determines the power coefficient of noise P_i , to predict a power spectral density $P(s)$ from the digital circuit, but fails to discuss a mean bit rate. Chang et al. mentions mean bit rate as a method of determining new communication.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify the power spectral density of Feldmann et al. with the deterministic method of Chang et al. with the expectation of determining a node for new communication. Chang et al. developed a method to determine whether or not a node was needed, which would utilize the mean bit rate data (Col. 4 lines 30-45).

In view of claims 11, 13, 20 and 22, Feldmann et al. discloses both a digital and analog circuits (Col. 4 lines 15-40).

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 2-4, 6-8, 12, 14- 17, 21 and 24-26 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Response to Applicant

1) Simulation of substrate noise is accomplished using a lumped element (Fig. 6) and analog signals (Heij. Pg. 1005 1st para.).

2) The examiner agrees that the reference includes both measurements and simulating of devices, but because the general nature of the all the claims as written, proper prosecution and preferred direction of this application still rests in the direction of allowable subject matter.

Final Action

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. See MPEP 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Contact Information

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications for the examiner should be directed to Granvill Lee

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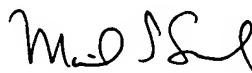
whose telephone number is (571) 272-1897. The examiner can be normally reached on Monday thru Friday from 8:00 am to 4:30 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are not successful, the examiner's supervisor, Matthew Smith can be reached on (571) 272-1907. The fax phone number for this group is (703) 872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Examiner
Granvill Lee
Art Unit 2825

G1
10/12/04



MATTHEW SMITH
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800